



# Tucson Water Backflow News

[www.tucsonaz.gov/water/backflow.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/backflow.htm)

September 2007

## NEW AREA INSPECTOR

Welcome new inspector Becky Mellor!. Her area will be Zone 2, north of Broadway-east of Country Club. Her cell # is 349-9138. Becky has been with Tucson Water for about 7 years. Most recently she worked in Plant Design. She has a strong background in water system infrastructure and regulations. Becky is a great addition to the Backflow Prevention/Reclaimed Water section & looking forward to working with everyone

## INSPECTOR OR TESTER?

The four area BF Inspectors represent the jurisdictional authority of Tucson Water. Please do not represent yourself to the customer as a BF Inspector. If the customer has a question about BF assembly requirements, please refer them to the area Inspector. Do not tell the customer whether a BF assembly is required or not. This is not your call. This is a decision made by the BF Inspector. If you have any questions regarding this, please call or e-mail the Inspector responsible for that area. Enclosed is a map showing the area of responsibility for each Inspector along with their cell phone number and e-mail address.

## WINTER FREEZE

Due to the freeze last winter, a lot of assemblies were replaced in January & February. If these assemblies were not due for an annual test in January or February, they will require testing when their normal compliance date rolls around. We cannot change everyone's test date to the freezing months. If we did, eventually all assemblies would be tested in January or February. Also, if a backflow leaks or needs repair within the year, it must be retested. This does not change the yearly compliance date. So, yes, an assembly can be tested more than once a year.

## 19,000 AND GROWING!

The Backflow Prevention/Reclaimed Water section of Tucson Water currently tracks around 19,000 assemblies. Each one requires a yearly test. It's a big job and keeps on growing. The independent testers are our eyes in the field and we could not keep up with testing task without your help. Keep up the good work!

## MULTI ASSEMBLY LOCATIONS

Make it easy on your customer! Encourage them to consolidate all of their assemblies to one compliance date. Multi assembly consolidation forms are available on our web site.

## ONLINE TEST ENTRY COMING SOON!

After many years of planning and hard work, the long awaited arrival of the backflow internet data entry system is almost here. Training classes will be scheduled in the near future. If you are a registered tester and are interested, please FAX (791-2614) us your name & phone number. When the test system is ready, we will contact you with training class information.

## NEED A PERMIT?

If you have an APA account and need a permit, we encourage you to FAX your request using the enclosed Request For Backflow Permit form. This really helps us out because we can't always answer the phones. If you pull 5 or more permits per month and would like to open an APA account, contact our office for details.

## HERE'S HELP

You know backflows need to be installed at least 12" above ground. Here is a handy ruler to help remind you!

